

Hope!

southeastern

children's
home

inside ...

From Duncan to D.C.

Seen and unseen

A grateful farewell

Walk
with us
into 2026!

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Feb. 1, 2025 – Oct. 15, 2025

From Duncan to D.C.

SECH foster parents honored in nation's capitol, make deep impression on S.C. lawmaker

By Brad Brooks,
Executive Director

The smile on Senator Lindsey Graham's face was as big as it was genuine. And his eyes seemed to light up as he listened to what was being said to him. The couple sitting just to the right of the senator were telling "The Boss" (as Senator Graham is affectionately referred to by his staffers) about one of their foster children and his two older siblings, how the sibling group had come to be in foster care, and how they had been caring for the three of them in their home for nearly a year. "That's amazing," said the smiling senator, before turning his attention toward me and asking, "and why are you here?"



Members of the Wireman family were nominated by Sen. Lindsey Graham for the Angels of Adoption and Fostering Award. They met with Sen. Graham when they traveled to D.C. to receive the award.



"... It is a calling, a direct response to the love the Savior has shown them ..."

"I'm here to support these two and the work they're doing," I answered as I motioned just to the left of me, in the direction of Bill and Emily Wireman, one of Southeastern Children's Home's on-campus foster parent couples.

Bill, Emily, and I were on Capitol Hill that afternoon in September because they were this year's Angels in Adoption Award winners for the state of South Carolina. As a constituent of Senator Graham's, part of their two-day whirlwind visit to Washington, D.C. included spending time in his office, receiving their award from him, and advocating on behalf of foster and adopted children in our state. The visit culminated on the final evening in a banquet held by the Congressional

"... Caring for the vulnerable, the outcasts, the forgotten ... it's all part of what we do. ..."

Hope! is a publication of Southeastern Children's Home, Brad Brooks, Executive Director. We can be reached **by mail** at 115 Children's Way, Duncan, SC 29334, **by phone** at 864.439.0259, and **by email** at info@sech.org.

Coalition on Adoption Institute, a “nonprofit, nonpartisan organization founded in 2001 to eliminate the barriers that prevent children from being part of a safe, nurturing, and permanent family.” (ccainstitute.org)

I was honored to be there to support the Wiremans, to have the opportunity to meet with senators from both North and South Carolina, to attend the banquet in which foster and adoptive families from all over the country were honored, and to help raise awareness for child welfare. It was a wonderful visit, one I will not soon forget.

But it was the smile on Senator Graham's face that I'll always remember the most. The big, genuine smile on his face and the light in his eye were all there because of Bill and Emily, because of the heart and the love and the compassion

“... The big, genuine smile on his face and the light in his eye were all there because of Bill and Emily, because of the heart and the love and the compassion behind every word they said in his office that afternoon. ...”

behind every word they said in his office that afternoon. Emily spoke of showing the love of Jesus each day to each of the children in their home. Bill spoke of the call on their collective hearts to care for those who are most vulnerable, who cannot speak up for themselves. This was not just something their family happens to be doing. It is a calling, a direct response to the love the Savior has shown them. Their ministry as a family is to show that love to the foster children in their home.



Emily and Bill Wireman at the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute's Angels In Adoption awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

It was an amazingly beautiful scene. There, on Capitol Hill, in the office of the senior senator from the State of South Carolina, among staffers, a sitting senator, and me the gospel of Jesus Christ was shared. It was shared by a humble couple from Duncan who were simply doing what they felt they had been called to do. I'll never forget it.

At Southeastern Children's Home, living out and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ is what we do every day. Caring for the vulnerable, the outcasts, the forgotten ... it's all part of what we do. And if you're a supporter of our ministry, you're part of all that as well. Thank you for that support, and for helping us put smiles on the faces of people everywhere – whether they're U.S. senators in Washington, D.C. or young children in Duncan, South Carolina.

Sincerely,

Brad Brooks

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Feb. 1, 2025 - Oct. 15, 2025

A grateful farewell

Director of Development departs Southeastern to begin new chapter in a life of service

"I thank my God every time I remember you."

Philippians 1:3

Dear SECH Family,

After decades of supporting Southeastern Children's Home, I was blessed to join the staff five years ago. I came with a heart full of excitement, ready to devote my time to "Kingdom Business." These years have been deeply meaningful to me, both personally and professionally.

So much has happened, and so much has changed. Through it all, God has been faithful. I've often said, "I am having the time of my life!"—and I truly have. This season



"... These years have been deeply meaningful to me, both personally and professionally. ..."

has been one of growth, opportunity, and fulfillment. I will always consider myself part of the SECH family.

As many of you know, Palmetto Bible Camp has been a part of my life for over 50 years. From my first week as an 8-year-old camper to serving as a staff member, board member, Camp Director, and officer, PBC has shaped my life in countless ways. I joined the board of directors in 1988 and have remained committed ever since.

Now, as PBC approaches its 60th year, it has chosen to hire its first Executive Director. I am honored to have been selected for this role, beginning January 1, 2026.

Until then, I remain fully committed to helping SECH flourish and will continue to support both ministries in the future.

Thank you for these incredible years. I am grateful beyond words.

With love and appreciation,

Curt Harbuck
Director of Development
Southeastern Children's Home

FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU, DECLARES THE LORD, PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.

— JEREMIAH 29:11 —

SECH HOPE GIVERS
 ARE PEOPLE WHO MAKE A MONTHLY COMMITMENT TO HELP CHILDREN IN NEED.
 SECH.ORG



Huerta family honored by Greenville Triumph SC

We are so proud of the Huerta family! For seven years, they've opened their home to over 20 children and now live on our campus to love more kids. Thank you to Greenville Triumph SC and Spectrum for honoring them as Community Heroes!



Wade Scharff Memorial Golf Tournament

*What an incredible day at the Wade Scharff Memorial Golf Tournament! Thanks to the generosity of our community, the event was a huge success in support of the mission of Southeastern Children's Home. We give a special thank you to our Gold Sponsors because your partnership makes such a difference for children and families in need: **AFL, Plasman, UPS Store.***

*Congratulations to tournament winners **Brad Moss, Travis Hicks, Nathan Wyatt, and Kelly Wyatt** for an outstanding performance on the course!*

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Feb. 1, 2025 – Oct. 15, 2025



Seen and unseen – the very real impacts

By **Andrea Huerta,**
SECH Foster Parent

As an on-campus Southeastern foster parent, I do not get to see all the supporters who have poured into this campus over the decades. But our family not only gets to see the impact, we have the privilege of living in it with up to eight children at a time.

I've often felt the history on this campus and wondered at all the stories that led to Southeastern's active role in the community today. Lately I've been thinking of the many moments happening all around me that are only made possible by supporters - but they're mostly unseen.

You see a gift acknowledgment.

I see a four-year-old boy who entered foster care nonverbal and now sings Jesus Loves Me.

I see a big white van that allows us to say **YES** to more children in foster care!

I see a five-year-old boy who recently got out of his leg braces climbing on the new playground, singing "Praise Ye the Lord!" and suddenly we're all

joining in song and clapping as he flies down the slide.

Inside the repaired gazebo, I see a birthday party for the one-year-old boy that once had no hope to live to another day.

I see an office that is now so lovely to walk into ... an office that has filled the gap so we can fill the gap. To some it may just look like ten minutes here, an hour there, some cans of formula, clothes and suitcases... to us, it's the ability to keep fostering.

I see the single mom who was helped generously by Southeastern, who then said to me, "You guys showed me that I'm not alone and I do have a reason for being here."

There's also the difficult nights where I have sunk to the kitchen floor crying out to God and wearing noise blocking headphones because the behaviors and sheer constant noises are at times all I can see. The unseen prayers lift me back up. I can't see you praying, but I know you are.

I see the hard days where foster families still face surgeries and emergencies (Life doesn't stop just

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Mr. and Mrs. Cecil and Kay Crabtree
Mr. Kyle Crowe
Mr. and Mrs. Barry and Kendra Deaver
Mr. and Mrs. Dan and Ann Edwards

Mr. Brian Freeland
Mr. and Mrs. Jon and Stephanie Gaminde
Janene Gowan
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn and Carrie Greer
Ms. Joyce Grigsby
Mr. and Mrs. Todd and Shelley Haney
Jan Henson
Ms. Sandra Hughes
Mr. Adam Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Don and Shannon Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Alan and Amy Jopson
Mr. Mark Klopff
Ms. Lisa Knighton
Mr. and Mrs. Steve and Tracy Link
Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Christina Long
Mr. and Mrs. Brett and Hannah Miller
Rebecah Olson
Mr. and Mrs. Billy and Timberly Orr
Mr. Roger Page
Britney Parks
Ms. Elizabeth Perry
Shannon Rafferty
Dedra Ray
Mrs. Aubrey Richey
Ms. Ann Silvius
Ms. Kathy Sims
Mr. and Mrs. Trey and Jennifer Still
Ruth Stone
Jamie Thomas
Ms. Jezebel Torrez
Mr. Robert Whitley

Cub Scout Pack 603
Devoy Enterprises, Inc.
DNA Building Repair
FCA Carolina Events
Jersey Mikes
McGuinn Homes
Swift Charities

First Baptist Church of Lyman
Gold Hill Road Church of Christ
Liberty Hill United Methodist Church
New Trinity Baptist Church
Sharon United Methodist Church

Feb. 1, 2025 – Oct. 15, 2025

of your contributions

because you're fostering!) - and the community sweeps in with food, giftcards, and childcare.

What you do makes what we do possible. You may not see it. But I wanted you to know that we see it every day and we thank God for you!



AFL Work Day at Southeastern

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful day AFL spent serving at Southeastern Children's Home. Not only did they enjoy time together as a team, but they also accomplished so much. The storage room is organized and looking great, and the landscaping and tree trimming made our campus look beautiful and refreshed. It was a true joy to see such a dedicated group working side by side to make a difference in our community. This was AFL's third time serving on our campus this year, and we are so thankful for their continued support and partnership.



Thank you, AFL, for your hard work, energy, and generosity!

Amazon wish list!

Scan the QR code to donate supplies to Southeastern through Amazon.com!



Southeastern Children's Home is listed as a **certified charity** with most United Way county organizations. If you want to give to SECH through the United Way, please be sure to specifically designate Southeastern Children's Home as your **charity of choice**. This designation often requires additional paperwork, but it is beneficial to SECH. Also, many employers offer a **gift-matching program**. If your employer offers a gift-matching program, please consider naming Southeastern Children's Home as the **designated recipient**. Gift-matching programs are a great way to expand your gift.

HOOO!

fall/winter 2025



southeastern
children's
home

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